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M. McINERNEY,

Merchant and Fort Streets.

## ANOTHER OPINION

Correspondent Disagrees  
With Prof Hitchcock.

Says There is No Fear About the  
Stability of These Islands—  
His Reasons.

Editor Advertiser.—Sir: Your report of Professor Hitchcock's lecture on the geology of the Hawaiian Islands has attracted considerable attention. Most people would probably give little consideration to the general theory of vulcanism as exemplified in this archipelago, but their interest is at once excited by the statement that the Islands are but huge "needles sticking end up in the ocean and liable to overthrow by earthquakes." While listening to Professor Hitchcock, I did not think he meant to put the statement as strongly as your reporter interpreted it; and since several people have mentioned it to me, seeming to be under some apprehension as to the stability of our Islands, I have thought it appropriate to call attention to a few facts in connection with the elevation and area of some of the Hawaiian Islands.

The sea surrounding these Islands attains a mean depth of about 16,000 feet, the sub-marine slopes being very steep. The Island of Oahu rises to a maximum height of some 4,000 feet above sea level. Adding the aerial and submarine heights, we have a total of 20,000 feet, or somewhat less than four miles, as the elevation of Oahu above the general level of the ocean floor. This is, indeed, a considerable height; and, taken by itself, is sufficient to cause some apprehension in the minds of those dwelling upon the brink of such a precipice. However, we have as yet given only the vertical axis of our projection. Let us now look at the horizontal component. Oahu is some forty miles long and has an average breadth of, say, twenty miles, except in the extreme southern part. Suppose we reduce these dimensions to a small scale, for the sake of convenience. Let us assume a scale of four miles to an inch. Then we shall represent Oahu by a brick, or tile, ten inches long, five inches wide and one inch thick, lying upon its flat side in three-fourths of an inch of water. What kind of a needle is represented by this tile? It requires a stronger imagination than mine to see a flat paving-stone as a long, slender needle. Again, this tile is not standing on end, but lying flat on the ocean floor in the position of most stable equilibrium. We may conceive, perhaps, a seismic disturbance so great as to rend the Island in pieces and so destroy it; but when a solid is in the position of most stable equilibrium no conceivable force can cause it "to topple over." So we may dismiss from our minds all apprehension of our beautiful Islands "toppling over and disappearing beneath the ocean." The continents themselves are scarcely more stable than our Islands.

Reduced to the same relative scale as Oahu, Kauai would appear to us as a circular tile some eight inches in diameter and slightly thicker than an inch, and Hawaii somewhat like a slab of paving stone about two feet long and one and a half inches thick.

So much for the resemblance of the Hawaiian Islands to "long, slender needles." VIATOR.

## SUGAR EATERS.

In 1869 the English consumed, on the average, forty-two pounds of sugar per capita annually. That this is enough for either health or reasonable enjoyment is proved by the fact that few peoples use so much today. For example, in 1896 Italy consumed 7.19 pounds per capita; Spain, 12.67 pounds; Austria-Hungary, 16.84 pounds; Belgium, 22.8 pounds; Germany, 27.14 pounds, and France, 28.24 pounds. In the United States, where the use of sweets is said to be injuriously excessive, only 35 pounds per capita were consumed in 1898, and 61 pounds per capita in 1899. In England during 1895-7 every human being, including babies, invalids and paupers, disposed, on the average, of nearly four ounces of sugar a day, or 84.77 pounds a year.

Furthermore, neither from the economic nor the sanitary standpoint do the uses to which the extra sugar ration is put seem satisfactory. One of the chief of these appears to be to encourage drinking. Though the exports of beer from England show a tendency to decline, brewing grows apace. Twenty-seven gallons a year per capita, counting women and children, are surely enough. In America, though the amount of spirits drunk is the same, fifteen and a half gallons of beer suffice; and American beer is light. Twenty-seven and one-quarter gallons were the measure in England in 1883; yet in 1897 it had swelled to thirty-one and a half gallons, an expansion at the rate of about 1 per cent a year. But, fast as brewing grows, the weight of sugar used in the beer grows faster. In 1883 the public put up with something less than four and three-quarter pounds of sugar to the barrel; in 1897 it demanded between eight and nine pounds.—The Forum.

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The New Pacific Hand Sewing Machines, and other agencies.

## FOREIGN NEWS NOTES.

Jim Jeffords of California knocked out Peter Jackson in four rounds at Vancouver on the 23rd. Jeffords had it his own way all through.

The coroner's jury in the case of Alfred Molina, who died on the 23rd at Stockton, Cal., as the result of a ten-round boxing match, brought in a verdict that deceased came to his death from blows administered by J. W. Musick.

Frank Ricard has been drowned in Five Finger rapids on the Yukon.

The California raisin crop this year will be small but prices will be good.

One third of the great Homestake mine at Deadwood, S. D., belonging to the Hearst Estate, is reported sold for \$3,500,000.

Joseph Landauer, a New York cigar maker, killed himself and Josephine Engel, a 15-year-old girl, in a vacant lot. Both were shot through the heart.

Two negroes were killed and twenty persons severely shocked while engaged in the construction of a New Orleans electric car line.

The Texas cotton crop has been damaged by hot winds.

George Cornwell, a Fresno young man, cut his throat while temporarily insane.

There is not labor enough in the vicinity of Visalia, Cal., to handle the fruit crop.

It is reported that Maurice Grau has engaged Dr. Muck of Berlin, leader of the Royal German Opera, for the season at a salary of £5,400.

At the Goshen Driving Park, New York, Joe Patchen beat John R. Gentry in two straight heats.

The Nebraska regiment was mustered out in San Francisco on the 23rd.

Dr. Spoonleg, superintending physician at Agnew's Asylum, has been dismissed from his position.

The death is announced of Henry de Vilmorein of Paris, well known in the United States from his visits in the study of seeds.

William H. Bodwell, aged 67, a well known printer and ex-president of the International Typographical Union, is dead at Whitehall, N. Y.

The cable ship Hooker is a wreck at Manila.

The War Department has chartered the steamship George W. Elder, for a transport.

South Australian crops all promise well.

The War Department has issued an order honorably discharging from the volunteer army Brigadier General Irving Hale, to take effect October 1.

Two men were blown to pieces in a powder mill explosion at Pottsville, Pa.

Rev. Dr. Benjamin F. de Costa, rector of the Protestant-Episcopal church of St. John the Evangelist, New York, has resigned on account of his advanced years.

The Minnesota Volunteers will be mustered out at San Francisco.

The Harper-McClure combination will shortly issue a 10-cent magazine.

Rioting is going on at Klagenfurt, Austria.

Schools in Oporto, Portugal, have all been closed on account of the plague outbreak.

Admiral Dewey was given an ovation on his arrival at Nice, France.

Three Washington men have made a successful ascent of Mount Rainier.

"Calumet" Does Not Belong to a Baking Powder Trust, but Consumers are Rapidly Learning to Place Their Trust in "Calumet."

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